

REMARKS

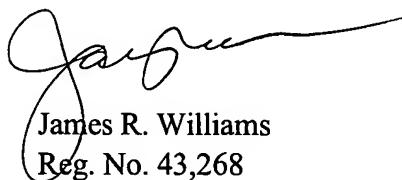
The claims have been amended to comply with U.S. practice. The amended claims eliminate indefinite claims and include antecedent basis for all claimed elements. Claims 15-28 correspond to original claims 1-14, respectively. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the amended specification and claims conform to standard U.S. practice, and are now in condition for allowance. Applicants request consideration and allowance of the amended claims 15-28.

Date:

17 May 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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